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# Best Practices for Developing and Testing Risk Adjustment Models

## *Web Meeting #2*

February 2, 2021

*This project is funded by the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services under contract HHSM-500-2017-00060I –75FCMC20F0001 - Best Practices for Developing and Testing Risk Adjustment Models.*

**Welcome**



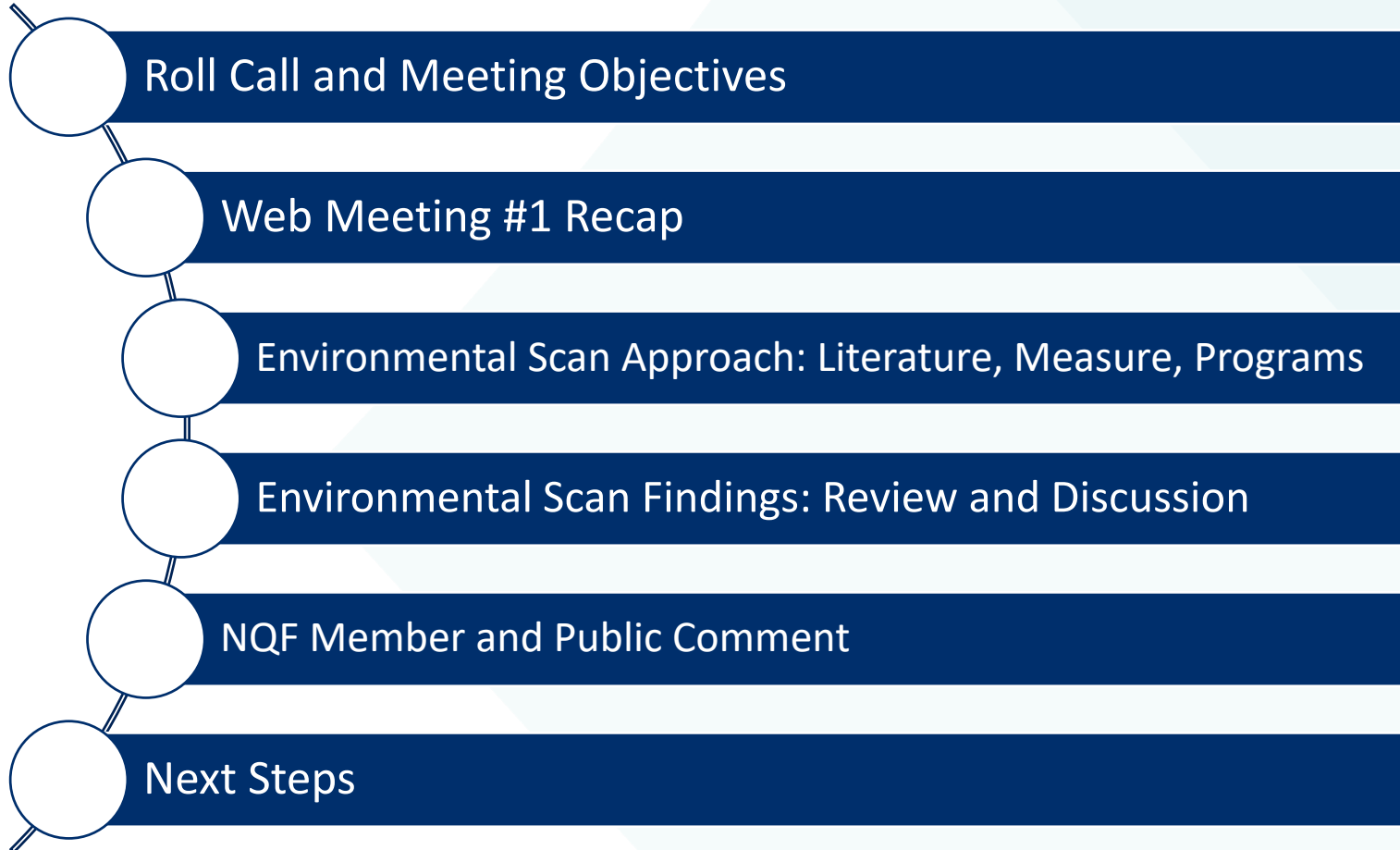
## Welcome

- The RingCentral web platform will allow you to visually follow the presentation.
- Please mute your lines when you are not speaking to minimize background noise.
- You may submit questions to project staff via the RingCentral web platform chat function.

If you are experiencing technical issues, please contact the NQF project team at [RAGuidance@qualityforum.org](mailto:RAGuidance@qualityforum.org)



# Agenda



# Roll Call and Meeting Objectives

## Project Team

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### NQF Staff

**Sai Ma**, PhD, MPA, Managing Director  
Senior Technical Expert, Quality Measurement

**Matthew Pickering**, PharmD, Senior Director

**Taroon Amin**, PhD, MPH, Consultant

**Katie Berryman**, MPAP, PMD, Project Manager

**Monika Harvey**, MBA, PMP, Project Manager

**Janaki Panchal**, MSPH, Manager

**Hannah Ingber**, MPH, Senior Analyst

**Juanita Rogers**, MS, CHES, Analyst

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## CMS Staff

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### CMS

**Sophia Chan**, PhD, MPH, TO COR, CCSQ, CMS

**Maria Durham**, MS, MBA, Director, Division of Program and Measurement Support (DPMS), CCSQ, CMS

**Helen Dollar-Maples**, RN, MSN, Deputy Director, DPMS

**Patrick Wynne**, Senior Analyst, IDIQ COR, CCSQ, CMS

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## Technical Expert Panel (TEP) Members

<b>Co-Chairs</b>	Philip Alberti, PhD
	Karen Joynt Maddox, MD, MPH
Arlene Ash, PhD	John Martin, PhD, MPH
Patrick Campbell, PhD, PharmD, RPH	Shalini Prakash, MS
Elizabeth Drye, MD, SM	Sandra Richardson, MS
Marc Elliott, PhD, MA	David Shahian, MD
Rachel Harrington, PhD	Cristie Upshaw Travis, MSHHA
Bellinda King-Kallimanis, PhD, MSc	Janice Tufte
Vincent Liu, MD, MS	Katherine Vickery, MD, MSc.
Danielle Lloyd, MPH	

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## Federal Liaisons

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Federal Liaison	Affiliation
Andy Frankos-Rey, MA	CMCS/CMS
Craig Caplin, PhD	HRSA
David Nyweide, PhD	CMMI/CMS
Jesse Roach, MD	CCSQ/CMS
Joel Andress, PhD	CCSQ/CMS
Lok Wong Samson, PhD	ASPE
Maushami (Mia) DeSoto, PhD	AHRQ
Rachael Zuckerman, PhD	ASPE
Sarah Gaillot, PhD	CM/CMS
Shafa Al-Showk, PhD	CM/CMS

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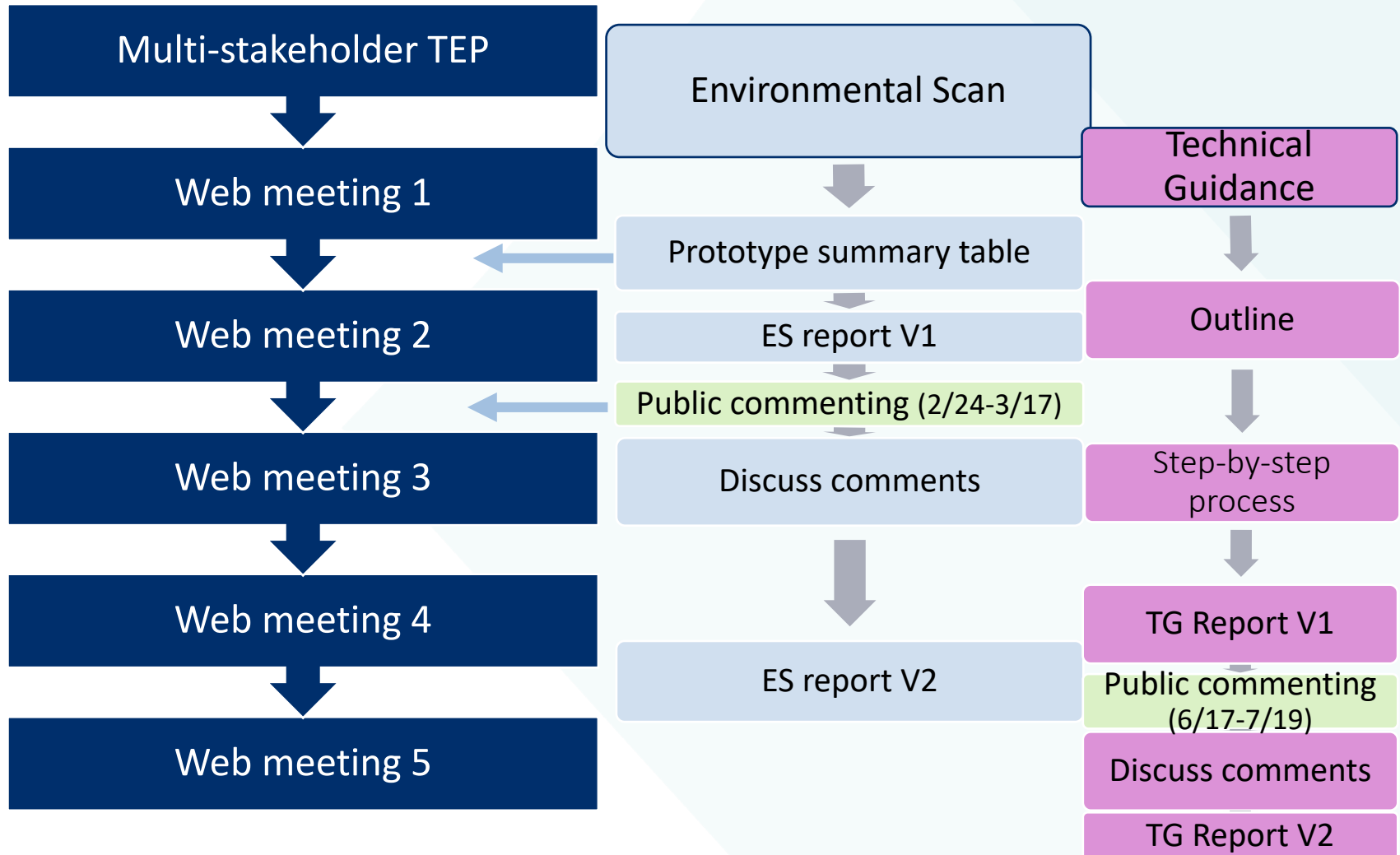


## Meeting Objectives

- Provide a recap of Web Meeting #1 and discuss updates to the Environmental Scan
- Review the first draft of Environmental Scan focusing on the datasets used, functional or social risk factors identified during the scan, approaches to conceptual and statistical methods used
- Discuss TEP input of the first draft of Environmental Scan to identify themes within and across the three prongs of the Environmental Scan: literature review, performance measures, and program adjustment.

# Web Meeting #1 Recap

## Key Milestones (*Base Year*)





## Literature Prong Recap

- TEP agreed that the literature review approach was appropriate.
- Emphasize that both social and functional risk factors are vital for inclusion in this project.
- More definitions and standardization are critical, particularly for functional risk adjustment.
- Recommendations were provided:
  - ▣ establish a framework for defining functional status
  - ▣ scanning outside of the quality measurement field, which may address the paucity of data on these issues
  - ▣ addition of a column on literature conclusions or results in the summary table



## Measure Prong Recap

- TEP agreed that the approach was sound and that the table was well-populated.
- Recommendations were provided:
  - ▣ functional status framework will be helpful for this prong as it will help answer whether it was or was not included for measures under an agreed-upon definition
  - ▣ older measures may not illustrate the current approaches and issues in the field, so consider using newer measures



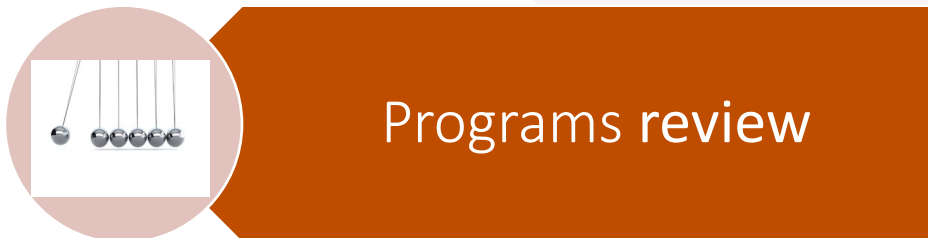
## Program Prong Recap

- TEP agreed with the suggested approach for the program prong.
- TEP highlighted the benefits of interviewing programs to investigate lack of public access to their methodologies and why risk adjustment is not included at the program level
- Recommendations were provided:
  - ▣ Include data sources for these programs and identifying which risk adjustment factors were considered vs. which risk factors were included in the final model
  - ▣ Describe "program" in this context
  - ▣ Describe the search strategy

# **Environmental Scan Approach: Literature, Measures, Programs**



## Environmental Scan: Three-pronged Approach (Base Year)



### Focuses of the scan:

- Conceptual model
- Datasets used
- Social risk and functional risk factors available for testing
- Statistical methods
- Existing guidance
- How federal and non-federal programs currently adjust for social and functional risk factors: measure vs. payment or program level

# Environmental Scan Findings: Review and Discussion



## Environmental Scan Findings

- Guidance
  - ▣ Does detailed guidance exist on the steps required to design risk adjustment models that consider functional and social risk?
- Datasets
  - ▣ How do different forms of data collection influence the design of risk adjustment models that consider functional and social risk (i.e., survey data vs. administrative claims)?
- Function/Social Risk Factors Available for Testing
  - ▣ The availability and quality of strategies for identifying a larger data pool of functional or social risk factors
- Approaches to Conceptual and Statistical Methods
  - ▣ Existing practices to design risk adjustment models
  - ▣ Variations in risk adjustment based on different measure types and intended uses
- Program prong – is the summary at the right level?
- Other – identify other topics from the TEP input

# **NQF Member and Public Comment**

# Next Steps

## Next Steps

### Meeting dates

Meeting (2 hours each)	Date/Time
<b>Web Meeting 2:</b> Environmental Scan Feedback	February 2, 2021; 1-3pm ET
<b>Web Meeting 3:</b> Technical Guidance and Public Comment Feedback	April 2, 2021; 1-3pm ET
<b>Web Meeting 4:</b> Technical Guidance Feedback	May 13, 2021; 1-3pm ET
<b>Web Meeting 5:</b> Public Comment Feedback	July 14, 2021; 1-3pm ET



## Project Contact Info

- Email: [RAGuidance@qualityforum.org](mailto:RAGuidance@qualityforum.org)
- NQF phone: 202-783-1300
- Project page:
  - [http://www.qualityforum.org/Risk Adjustment Guidance.aspx](http://www.qualityforum.org/Risk_Adjustment_Guidance.aspx)
- SharePoint site:
  - <https://share.qualityforum.org/portfolio/DevelopingandTestingRisk/SitePages/Home.aspx>

**THANK YOU.**

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